

October Update

*He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.
I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God in whom I trust."
Psalm 91:1-2*

A Day Of Celebration: October 3 was a special day for one of my close Nigerian friends who has been such a blessing to our Gidan Bege ministry. Abigail has worked in



the ministry for many years and has helped with sponsorship interviews for our boys and girls and assistance with short-term teams from overseas. Abigail met her husband, Wayne when he came to Nigeria with a short-term team from Colorado. They were married here in Nigeria on October 3.

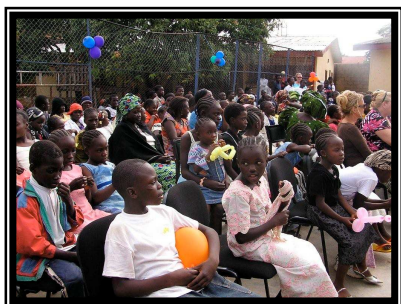
I think this was the largest gathering of white people for any event I have ever attended. The Texas Team, the name we have given to the team from Lake Point Church in Texas that has come to Nigeria for the last nine years, planned their trip so that they would be here for Abigail's wedding. Let's just say it was one big event!

It was a full Nigerian wedding with lots of music, dancing, food and colorful outfits. Wayne did a great job of jumping right in and giving it his all as he danced down the aisle with Abigail at the reception. The wedding took up most of the day, which is very typical for Nigerian weddings. We all had a great time, but we were worn out by the end of the day.



Wayne and Abigail are now living in Colorado. I look forward to visiting them while I am on home assignment next year and see how Abigail is adjusting to life in the USA.

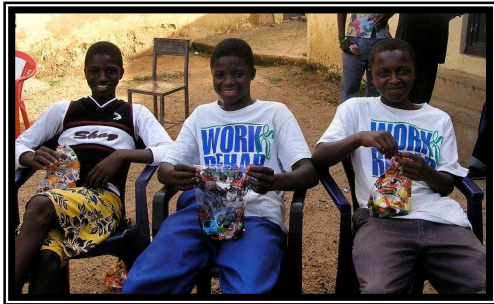
Yee Haw Fills The Air: The Texas Team arrived again with all their smiles, hugs and lots of yee haws. No team is louder, crazier, or more in love with Nigeria than the Texas Team. The staff, the kids, and the missionaries always look forward to them coming. As



the van carrying the team drives up to the care center, you can already hear the yee haws and shouts of greetings. The boys think that everyone in Texas goes around shouting yee haw. I had to correct this thinking and say that not everyone says it or says it quite as freely as this team. Ha.

The team always comes to help missionaries and Nigerians alike. They bring lots of supplies for the

ministry, cook a wonderful Mexican dinner for the missionaries and Nigerian staff, and travel here and there doing different ministries and outreaches.



Every year when the team comes they throw a Birthday party for all the care centers. They pay for food and soft drinks and bring small goody bags for all the kids. Since most of the kids don't know when their Birthday is, we have one big Birthday celebration that the kids look forward to every year.

When the guitars started playing, the time of praise and worship began and everyone joined in to sing together. Many of the kids performed special numbers and then all the goody bags were handed out. As music played, the refreshments were served and then the dancing broke out. It is just not a celebration in Nigerian if there is no dancing!

How The West Was Fun: Saddle your horses, round up the gang, and prepare yourself for a taste of the West. During the fall school break there were two theme weekends set up at Miango Rest Home and Conference Center. I went to the How The West Was Fun



weekend and I am sure by the name you know what the theme was for this weekend. Many came dressed in their bandanas, cowboy hats, and denim skirts or jeans. Sad to say my cowboy boots were in the USA.

There were lots of fun activities planned such as a junior rodeo, horse riding, hiking, and lots of different games. We watched a good old western film packed with saloon fights and big shootouts. I believe the big highlight of the weekend was the evening of square dancing and line dancing. Most of us were not pros at either one of these, but we all had fun learning as we swung our partners round and round. It was a good time to get away from work and have a time of fun and relaxation.

Saying Goodbye: It is hard to say goodbye to my friends, patients, and Transition House boys here in Nigeria, but in one month I will wave goodbye to them and say hello to all of you. The packing has begun along with turning over my ministry responsibilities to other missionaries. Pray for them, as they will carry on the work while I am on home assignment. It is never easy to close the door on your life in your country of ministry and then open the door to your life back in your home country. Pray for me as I make this transition back to America for six months.

I look forward to seeing my precious family and friends and having time to catch up on the events that have happened in their lives during my time away. I really look forward to seeing as many of my supporters as possible and sharing all the wonderful things God has been doing in my life and the lives of the people here in Nigeria. I have not made a schedule of my traveling dates for visiting churches and supporters at this

time. My plan is to stay with my family in New Mexico for the month of December and then travel to Texas in January where I will be based for most of my home assignment. I plan to travel to Colorado, South Carolina, and many cities throughout Texas visiting supporters and speaking at various churches. I will send out my travel schedule to all of you when I have the dates planned. Please feel free to email me if you would like for me to come and speak to your Bible study group, Sunday school class, or other event. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Praise:

- I have a car to use while I am on home assignment December 1-June 2010. My good friends are graciously letting me use one of their cars.
- The teachers strike has been called off so now our ministry kids are back in school.
- Good times of talking and developing relationships with my discipleship boys.

Prayer Request:

- Pray that I can get my ministry video finished and everything packed up to leave for home assignment.
- Pray for my last meeting together with the M*slim couple I have been witnessing to before I leave. Continue to pray for their salvation.
- Continue to pray for the financial needs of City Ministries.
- Pray for more staff for the girl's ministry.
- Pray we can find a Nigerian Physical Therapist for Evangel Hospital. The present Physical Therapist will be moving to another city in December.

God bless,

Gay Lynn McCrady